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(54) Title: ROBUST MODE STAGGERCASTING

(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for staggercasting, encodes a first signal representing content and encodes a second signal representing the content using encoding relatively more robust than the encoding of the first encoded content representative signal. A composite signal including at least the first and second encoded signals is generated, in which one of the first and second encoded signals is delayed with respect to the other encoded signal. If an error is detected in the composite signal, then the undelayed encoded signal is decoded to reproduce the content. Otherwise, the delayed encoded signal is decoded to reproduce the content.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/01583

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04N 1/409, 1/58, 11/02,
 US CL : 375/240.01, 240.27

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 375/240.01, 240.27

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 20020181581 A1 (BIRRU et al) 05 December 2002 (05.12.2002), Paragraphs [0021], [0029]-[0031],[0040], [0043]-[0044], Figure 2.	1-5, 7-11, and 13
Y	US 5,532,748 A (NAIMPALLY) 02 July 1996 (02.07.1996), Abstract, column 1 lines 53-64, column 2 lines 1-11, column 4 lines 33-53, column 5 lines 15-20, lines 40-43 and 50-67, column 6 lines 1-6, figures 3A and 4.	1-5, 7-11, and 13
A	US 6,211,926 B1 (WON) 03 April 2001 (03.04.2001), Full Document	1-14
A	US 6,370,666 B1 (LOU et al) 09 April 2002 (09.04.2002), Full Document.	1-14
A	US 20020191712 A1 (GADDAM et al) 19 December 2002 (19.12.2002), Full Document.	1-14

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

IEEE

search terms: mpeg, transmite, error, fading, vsb